

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, beginning on line 22 as follows:

A connection block 14 is arranged fixedly in the rack. This connection block is provided with passages and ports 15 which are connected to the passages and can be connected to the passages of the endoscope 7 by means of flexible tubes 16. On its underside (not visible in Fig. 2), the connection block 14 is provided with connection points for the connection of counter-connection blocks, which are to be described in more detail below. The connection block 14 is furthermore provided with a handle ~~46~~ 17. By moving the handle ~~46~~ 17, the connection block 14 can be connected to a counter-connection block or removed therefrom.

Please amend the paragraph on page 6, beginning on line 14 as follows:

Figs. 8 and 9 show a connection block 14 which is arranged in a rack 5 and a counter-connection block 33, 43 in more detail. The handle ~~46~~ 17 of the connection block 14 is also shown. On its side, the connection block 14 is provided with ports 15 which, via passages in the connection block 14, are in communication with holes 52 in the connection block 14, into which holes columns 53 of the counter-connection block 33, 43 fit. These columns 53 are in turn connected to passages 54 in the counter-connection block 33, 43.